United Nations A/C.3/72/L.1*

General Assembly

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Seventy-second session
Third Committee

# Organization of the work of the Third Committee

## Note by the Secretariat

### Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee will be issued in document A/C.3/72/1. Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (see A/72/100).

### Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, Assembly decision 71/538 on the programme of work of the Third Committee for the seventy-second session, the agenda of the seventy-second session (A/72/150), the first report of the General Committee on the organization of the seventy-second regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items (A/72/250), relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Third Committee, as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services.

### Question time and interactive dialogues

3. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee and pursuant to paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316 on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, immediately following the introduction of reports by executive heads and senior members of the Secretariat at the beginning of each debate, interactive dialogues and a "question time" will be held with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General, special rapporteurs and other special mechanisms as part of the formal proceedings of the Committee. Delegations are invited to participate actively in these dialogues with questions and unscripted comments. The general discussion of each agenda item or cluster of agenda items is to follow the question time.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 18 August 2017.

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**List of speakers**

4. The list of speakers for the general discussion on agenda items allocated to the Committee will be opened on Monday, 18 September 2017.

5. Requests for inscription from permanent missions to the United Nations and observer States for the general discussion on agenda items allocated to the Committee should be sent electronically through the eSpeakers platform. An automated email acknowledgement will be sent within one hour of receipt of the request. Requests for inscription from intergovernmental organizations, entities that have observer status with the General Assembly and entities of the United Nations system should be sent by email to the Secretariat.

**Statements**

6. Statements made during the general discussion under each agenda item or cluster of agenda items will be limited to 5 minutes for individual delegations and to 12 minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of delegations.

7. Under item 73 of the agenda, "Promotion and protection of human rights", delegations may make one statement under sub-item (a) and one statement under sub-item (d), which are to be discussed sequentially. Under sub-items (b) and (c), which are to be considered jointly, delegations may make two separate statements, one under sub-item (b) and one under sub-item (c). In the interest of time, however, delegations are encouraged to make only one statement under sub-items (a) and (d), and one statement under sub-items (b) and (c), within the established time limit.

8. Under item 71, "Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance", and item 72, "Right of peoples to self-determination", which are to be discussed jointly, delegations may also make two separate statements. Similarly, in the interest of time, delegations are again encouraged to make only one statement within the established time limit.

9. In accordance with previous decisions of the General Assembly, delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for the consideration of the relevant agenda item on that day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the item, if that is sooner. The first statement should be limited to five minutes and the second, if any, to three minutes.

**List of documents**

10. Attention is drawn to the addendum to the present note (to be issued as A/C.3/72/L.1/Add.1), which will list the documentation submitted under each agenda item expected to be allocated to the Committee.

**Conference facilities and meeting arrangements**

11. Unless otherwise specified, official meetings of the Committee will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 1 (Conference Building). The General Assembly has stressed that a punctual start of meetings is critical to the efficient utilization of services allocated to the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations. In accordance with past practice, it is proposed that rule 108 of the Committee's rules of procedure be waived with respect to the quorum needed to declare a meeting open.

**Co-sponsorship of draft resolutions and proposals**

12. The initiation and co-sponsorship of draft resolutions and other proposals will be undertaken electronically through the eSponsorship application without prejudice

# Annex

## Draft programme of work of the Third Committee

| *Date/time* | *Item/programme*[a] | |
|---|---|---|
| **Week of 2-6 October** | | |
| **Monday, 2 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Election of officers |
| | | Organizational matters |
| | **Item 138** | **Programme planning**[b] |
| | | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 28** | **Social development** |
| | | **(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly** |
| | | **(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family** |
| 1 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on item 28 |
| 3 p.m. | **Item 28** | General discussion (*continued*) |
| **Tuesday, 3 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Item 28** | General discussion (*continued and concluded*) |
| **Wednesday, 4 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 108** | **Crime prevention and criminal justice** |
| | **Item 109** | **International drug control** |
| 1 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on items 108 and 109 |
| 3 p.m. | **Items 108 and 109** | General discussion (*concluded*) |
| **Thursday, 5 October** | | |
| | | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of: |
| 10 a.m. | **Item 29** | **Advancement of women** |
| | | **(a) Advancement of women** |

| *Date/time* | *Item/programme*[a] | |
|---|---|---|
| | | **(b) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly** |
| 1 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on item 29 |
| 3 p.m. | **Item 29** | General discussion (*continued*) |
| **Friday, 6 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Item 29** | General discussion (*continued*) |
| **Week of 9-13 October** | | |
| **Monday, 9 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | **Item 29** | General discussion (*concluded*) |
| 3 p.m. | | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 69** | **Promotion and protection of the rights of children** |
| | | **(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children** |
| | | **(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children** |
| **Tuesday, 10 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | **Item 69** | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion (*continued*) |
| 1 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on item 69 |
| 3 p.m. | **Item 69** | General discussion (*continued*) |
| **Wednesday, 11 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Item 69** | General discussion (*continued and concluded*) |
| **Thursday, 12 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 70** | **Rights of indigenous peoples** |
| | | **(a) Rights of indigenous peoples** |
| | | **(b) Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples** |
| 1 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on item 70 |
| 3 p.m. | **Item 70** | General discussion (*concluded*) |
| **Friday, 13 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Introductory statements and interactive dialogue of: |

| *Date/time* | *Item/programme*[a] | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Items 73 (a) and (d)** | **Promotion and protection of human rights**<br>**(a) Implementation of human rights instruments**<br>Followed by introductory statements and interactive dialogue of:<br>**(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action** |
| 1 p.m. | | Deadline for submission of proposals under items 28, 108 and 109 |
| 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (a) and (d)** | General discussion |
| 6 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on items 73 (a) and (d) |
| **Week of 16-20 October** | | |
| **Monday, 16 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | **Items 73 (a) and (d)** | General discussion (*concluded*) |
| 3 p.m. | | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of: |
| | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | **Promotion and protection of human rights**<br>**(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms**<br>**(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives** |
| **Tuesday, 17 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| **Wednesday, 18 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| **Thursday, 19 October** | | **No formal meeting** |
| **Friday, 20 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| 1 p.m. | | Deadline for submission of proposals under items 29, 69, 70 and 73 (a) and (d) |

| *Date/time* | *Item/programme*[a] | |
|---|---|---|
| **Week of 23-27 October** | | |
| **Monday, 23 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| **Tuesday, 24 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| **Wednesday, 25 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| **Thursday, 26 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*continued*) |
| 3 p.m. | | Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (*concluded*) and general discussion |
| 6 p.m. | | Closure of list of speakers on items 73 (b) and (c) |
| **Friday, 27 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | General discussion (*continued*) |
| **Week of 30 October to 3 November** | | |
| **Monday, 30 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | **Items 73 (b) and (c)** | General discussion (*continued and concluded*) |
| **Tuesday, 31 October** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 71** | **Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance** |
| | | **(a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance** |
| | | **(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action** |
| | **Item 72** | **Right of peoples to self-determination** |
| 1 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on items 71 and 72 |
| | | Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 73 (b) and (c) |

| *Date/time* | *Item/programme*[a] | |
|---|---|---|
| 3 p.m. | **Items 71 and 72** | General discussion (*continued*) |
| **Wednesday, 1 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. | **Items 71 and 72** | General discussion (*concluded*) |
| 3 p.m. | | Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 65** | **Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions** |
| 6 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on item 65 |
| **Thursday, 2 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. | **Item 65** | General discussion (*concluded*) |
| 3 p.m. | | Introductory statement by the President of the Human Rights Council, followed by an interactive dialogue and general discussion of: |
| | **Item 68** | **Report of the Human Rights Council** |
| 6 p.m. | | Closure of the list of speakers on item 68 |
| **Friday, 3 November** | | **No formal meeting** |
| 1 p.m. | | Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 65, 68, 71 and 72 |
| **Week of 6-10 November** | | |
| **Monday, 6 November** | | |
| 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Tuesday, 7 November** | | |
| 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Thursday, 9 November** | | |
| 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Week of 13-17 November** | | |
| **Monday, 13 November** | | **No formal meeting** |
| 1 p.m. | | Deadline for submission of revised draft proposals and draft amendments |
| **Tuesday, 14 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Thursday, 16 November** | | |

| *Date/time* | *Item/programme*[a] | |
|---|---|---|
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Friday, 17 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Week of 20-24 November** | | |
| **Monday, 20 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Tuesday, 21 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. | | Action on proposals |
| **Wednesday, 22 November** | | |
| 10 a.m. | | Action on proposals |
| | **Item 122** | **Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly**[c] |
| | | Action on outstanding proposals |
| | | Conclusion of the work of the Third Committee |

[a] Item of the agenda (A/72/150).

[b] This item is to be allocated to all the Main Committees to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

[c] This item is to be allocated to the Third Committee for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on the tentative programme of work of the Committee for the seventy-third session of the General Assembly.